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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/530,400

09/07/2005

Bernd Schneider

KIRS.0019

5776

7590

03/16/2007

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Suite 1400  
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EXAMINER

ABRAMS, NEIL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/16/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/530,400	SCHNEIDER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Neil Abrams	2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4-7-05 (prelim amdt)
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: <u>3 sheets</u>   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### DETAILED ACTION

Claims 3, 9, objected to, claim 3, line 3 should read - - in that the additional module - - an otherwise changed for consistency with claim 1. Same applies to claim 9.

Applicant asked to clarify nature of admitted prior art, in any in this case. Does figure 4 shown prior art, with inventive concept being only use of part 4 as a transport rack for item 11. Is tray 4 with components 6 thereon known prior art?

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the claims 5, 6 features must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner,

the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

3. Claim 1, line 7, claim 8, line 4 seem incorrect should "connected" be -- electrically connected - - in each case.

4. Claims 5, 7, terms used are unclear and without basis in detailed description of the invention. Just what they refer to is unclear. Claim 8 is confusingly expressed, lines 4, 5 should read - - are connected to an additional electrical module of the vehicle electrical system that extends spatially beyond the boundary of the module rack - -. Line 10 should read - - the module rack is then installed... - - and line 11 should read - - and the additional electrical system module is then removed from the rack and installed in the electrical system with connections at positions that extend spatially beyond the boundaries of the module rack. - - Suggested languages should be reviewed for accuracy and modified as appropriate.

5. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Zaguskin.

6. For claims 1, 8, trim or rack 14 has components 56, 56 for vehicle use and has additional module 52, 60, 50 and serves as a transport base for the components and for these items 52, 54, 60, 50. Term "extends beyond the spatial limit" refer to an intended use matter not to actual structure of the assembly and therefore cannot be

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relied upon to overcome the rejection. In addition, when the trim is installed in the door frame the module 52, 54, 60 will all be connected to such locations. Above use of Zaguskin also would involves steps that meet claim 8.

For claims 1, 8, since Zaguskin teachings might not be clear as alternative, recited features, steps deemed obvious variations of Zaguskin. For example, obvious that trim with harness 30 would be manufactured at one location and transported to factory to be installed to doorframe 12 as seems suggested by Zaguskin but not explicitly stated.

7. For claim 2, it would have been obvious to use such a trim for a trunk area since electric circuits and trim panel are needed in such area. Note that claim 2 does not require components "in the wheel recess". For claim 3, plugs 52, 60, 54 are used to make connections within vehicle interior. Space inside door is within vehicle interior.

8. Claim 4, "component on retractable strap" deemed obvious variation, since strap disclosed without any clear statement of its purpose; nor does claim 4 relate strap to its disclosed location as part of trunk.

9. Above discussion covers claims 9, 10. For claims 5, 6, components are shown to reside in openings readable as packets or conformations. Claim 7, as best understood, also seems met by Zaguskin.

10. Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Watanabe. or Germany

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11. For claims, 1 and 8, Watanabe, figure 1 panel or rack 3 has electrical components (meters, etc) 15-17 in recess near leadline 5,7,etc and joined to wiring 8

and with, see fig 4, "electrical modules" at 21 mounted for connection to system 23, 28.27 on dashboard 20, fig 4, and also with connection modules at 29, with those at 21 and 29 being for making connections that are "beyond special limit" of part 3. The part 3 is also seen to serve as a base for transport of the harness, components and modules to the assembly point shown in figure 2. Above adequate for claims 1, 7, 8. For all claims since Watanabe might not be clear on all points, should issues arise as alternative recited features such as connection of harness 8 to components on panel 3 deemed obvious variations.

12. Claim 4 treated as above. Claim 3, mating components on dash 20 and at 29 are in interior of vehicle. For claims 5, 6 obvious that components would fit into recesses in panel 3 as is standard in the art.

13. For German patent device part 10 appears to be a rack for installation in a vehicle with components 20 at each end of linear cable part 9 and joined by prior assembly to additional modules on branches 10a, 10b. Claim 1, "beyond special limit" terms define no structure over the device as shown. Since German patent unclear, as alternative recited features could also be considered obvious variations of that device. For claim 8, as best understood, the part or added module on branch 10b appears as a wiring terminal. Obvious that it could be removed from branch 10b and joined to a vehicle part outside the rack special limits. This seems to be the standard use of wire harnesses.

14. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Admitted Prior Art (APA).

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15. It is assumed pending response, that figures 2, 4 tray (rack) 4 with components 6, 10 and a harness 10 thereon is APA, . Two items 6 are read as components other one is read as an additional module and all modules 6 are shown to be connected electrically. Claims 1-7, 9, 10, intended use cannot overcome the rejection since claims are to the device at time "before" final assembly and intended use cannot avoid the rejection. Dependent claims also considered as directed to APA.

16. For claim 8, the APA tray 4 with components 6 and 10 is to be transported to a final assembly ~~location~~ and installed. Claim 8 fails to clearly set forth any step of use to avoid such rejection. As alternative should the matter be at issue also obvious that tray 4 would be used as a transport rack for items 6 and 10 even if such movement be from one assembly table to a position of installation in a vehicle at which connectors on harnesses 10, 10 would be joined to other connectors in the trunk.

17. This rejection is seen to also show that the claims, as broadly stated, do not require the use of the rack as a transport means for harness like that at 11, but are (the additional module) readable on a system and steps that includes transport and installation of assembly 4, 6, 10, 10 and adding harness 11 only at time of final assembly to the vehicle. Nor do they require use of well 14 as a holder for any module or harness.

~~THE "AN ON... NETWORK" could be changed to cable harness --~~  
Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Neil Abrams at

telephone number 571-272-2089

  
NEIL ABRAMS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER